

Stricken language would be deleted from and underlined language would be added to present law.
Act 71 of the Regular Session

State of Arkansas
89th General Assembly
Regular Session, 2013

As Engrossed: H1/23/13
A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1015

By: Representative Harris

For An Act To Be Entitled

AN ACT TO ALLOW PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICTS TO ESTABLISH
POLICIES CONCERNING STUDENT USE OF ELECTRONIC
COMMUNICATIONS DEVICES WHILE AT SCHOOL; AND FOR OTHER
PURPOSES.

Subtitle

TO ALLOW PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICTS TO
ESTABLISH POLICIES CONCERNING STUDENT USE
OF ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS DEVICES AT
SCHOOL.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 6-18-502(b)(3)(C)-(E), concerning the requirements for Department of Education guidelines for student discipline policies for certain offenses, is amended to read as follows:

(C) Using, offering for sale, or selling beer, alcoholic beverages, or other illicit drugs by students on school property; and

~~(D) Possession by a student of any paging device, beeper, or similar electronic communication device on the school campus, however:~~

~~(i) The policy may provide an exemption for possession of such a device by a student who is required to use such a device for health or other compelling reasons; and~~

~~(ii) The policy may exempt possession of such a device after normal school hours for extracurricular activities; and~~

~~(E)~~(D) Willfully or intentionally damaging, destroying, or stealing school property by students.



SECTION 2. Arkansas Code Title 6, Chapter 18, Subchapter 5, is amended to add an additional section to read as follows:

6-18-515. Use of personal electronic devices.

(a) As used in this section, "personal electronic device" means without limitation a:

(1) Cellular telephone;

(2) Paging device;

(3) Beeper;

(4) Mobile telephone that offers advanced computing and Internet accessibility;

(5) Digital media player;

(6) Portable game console;

(7) Tablet, notebook, or laptop computer;

(8) Digital camera; and

(9) Digital video or audio recorder.

(b) A school district may establish a written student discipline policy and exemptions concerning the possession and use by a student of a personal electronic device:

(1) On school property;

(2) At an after-school activity; or

(3) At a school-related function.

(c) The policy may, without limitation:

(1) Allow or restrict the possession and use of a personal electronic device;

(2) Allow the use of a personal electronic device in school for instructional purposes at the discretion of a teacher or administrator;

(3) Limit the times or locations in which a personal electronic device may be used to make telephone calls, send text messages or e-mails, or engage in other forms of communication;

(4) Allow or prohibit the use of any photographic, audio, or video recording capabilities of a personal electronic device while in school;

(5) Exempt the possession or use of a personal electronic device by a student who is required to use such a device for health or another compelling reason;

(6) Exempt the possession or use of a personal electronic device

after normal school hours for extracurricular activities; and
(7) Include other relevant provisions deemed appropriate and
necessary by the school district.

/s/Harris

APPROVED: 02/11/2013